

# United Methodist Church Newsletter

Office hours  
Tues-Fri  
9am –3:00 pm  
754-4247



**MARCH**  
2023



[stpaulneunitedmethodistchurch.com](http://stpaulneunitedmethodistchurch.com)

## Staff

Rev. Dr. Susan Murithi

Church Secretary  
Carrie Hancock

Custodian  
Integrated Life Choices  
Call Office

## Committee Chairpersons:

Admin Council  
Mikaleh Esquatin

Board of Trustees  
Jared Rasmussen

Finance  
Dave Harrington

Staff/Parish Relations  
Bob Rasmussen

Worship  
Darla Voigt

Mission-Outreach  
Mary Ann Rickertsen

UMM  
Tom Knutson

UWF  
Charlene Craig  
Carol Phillips

Education  
Nancy Harrington

Auditor  
Larry Hurlburt

## March 2023 Newsletter- Immanuel

On February 26<sup>th</sup>, our church voted to stay UMC. This decision has brought with it mixed feelings for different people in our congregation. As your pastor, I want you to know that I will still be visiting you, praying for you, preaching the gospel faithfully, and serving our community. Some of us may choose to leave and become part of another church. I ask those who stay to bless them. Continue to love and pray for them. It is hard to see them leave because they are people who have been part of our church family for many years. I also ask those who feel led to leave to continue praying for those who feel led to stay, because they are our friends and our church family members.

So, no matter where our emotions are right now, know that God is with all of us, He is "Immanuel" which means God with us, closer than the air we breathe. He knows what we need best at this time. I urge us to be patient, still and gracious with ourselves and with each other.

Let us listen together to the next steps as to where God may be leading us, both as individuals and as a congregation.

Here is a prayer from Merton that I thought would start us off in the healing process.

*My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please you  
does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.  
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore will I trust you always though  
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.*

"The Merton Prayer" from Thoughts in Solitude Copyright © 1956, 1958  
by The Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani.

God bless St. Paul- Pastor Susan

# MARCH

<b>1st</b>	Prayer Group 11am Youth group 6:15pm Lent Study Group 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	<b>16th</b>	SPPRC meeting 7pm
<b>2nd</b>	Finance meeting 7pm	<b>18th</b>	UMC to help at Food Pantry 9-11am
<b>5th</b>	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Children's Sunday School— after worship	<b>19th</b>	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am— UMCOR Sunday Children's Sunday School— after worship
<b>7th</b>	Bible Study at Ursula's 1pm	<b>21st</b>	Bible Study at Ursula's 1pm
<b>8th</b>	Youth Group— 6:15pm Lent Study group 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	<b>22nd</b>	Youth group 6:15pm Lent Study group 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm
<b>12th</b>	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Children's Sunday School— after worship	<b>26th</b>	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Children's Sunday School— after worship
<b>14th</b>	UWF meeting 1:30pm	<b>29th</b>	Youth group 6:15pm Lent Study group 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm
<b>15th</b>	Prayer Group 11am Youth group 6:15pm Lent Study group 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm		

## February Attendance

February 5th:	62 In-person 184 Views/FB
February 12th:	60 In-person 76 Views/FB
February 19th:	61 In-person 102 views/FB
Ash Wednesday:	61 In-person 83 views/FB
February 26th:	80 In-person 92 views/FB

## February Offering Totals

February 5th:	\$4,053
February 12th:	\$1,709
February 19th:	\$5,407
Ash Wednesday:	\$85
February 26th:	\$1,416

## 2023 Graduating seniors



If you know of a high school senior interested in getting a scholarship through the church, now is the time to fill out an application!

Please note that these seniors need to be members of the United Methodist Church. Each school's counselor or office should have an application to fill out and they will have a due date attached to it. If you have any questions on this, please feel free to contact Deb Wells at 308-754-5620 or the church office.



March 1	Nancy McCarthy	March 15	Dane Berggren
March 2	Briley Poss	March 16	Dave Brehm
March 6	Kylee Poss	March 18	Kerri Rensch
March 8	Les Rawlings	March 18	Gunnar Nyberg
March 10	Gary Rasmussen	March 18	Jaxton Thompson
March 12	Mike Coghlan	March 19	Charlotte Rasmussen
March 12	Francine Rasmussen	March 22	Jackie Cook
March 13	Alyssa Ritter	March 29	Loren Pearson
March 14	Jaylynn Thompson	March 29	Kristina Radke
March 15	Chris Pedersen		

*Happy Anniversary*

March 28 Rick and Suzy Peters



## FOOD PANTRY



### Food Pantry

The United Methodist Church is responsible for operating the Food Pantry every third Saturday from 9-11 am. If you could volunteer to help any one of these Saturdays, it would be greatly appreciated. **March 18th** is the next work date. Precautions are taken to insure the health and protection of both the worker and the consumer.

Thank you, Theda Van Horn



### Food Pantry hours

Saturday 9:00-11:00 am Tuesday 4:00-6:00 pm

February is the month for United Methodist Church to donate to the Food Pantry.

### Food Pantry

The **Food Pantry** here in St. Paul is always looking for food donations. Please help us stock the shelves. Any food or paper item is accepted but these items are in high demand every month.

<b>Hamburger Helper</b>	<b>Pudding</b>
<b>Brownie mixes</b>	<b>Jello</b>
<b>Cookies</b>	<b>Canned fruit- any kind</b>
<b>Bar Soap</b>	<b>Cereal</b>
<b>Pork and Beans</b>	<b>Frosting</b>
<b>Crackers(Salad &amp; Soup)</b>	<b>Dish Soap</b>
<b>Laundry Soap</b>	<b>Shampoo/Conditioner</b>
<b>Paper Towels</b>	<b>Toilet Tissue</b>
<b>Flour</b>	<b>Ketchup/Mustard</b>
<b>Juice-any kind</b>	<b>Pie Crusts</b>
<b>Mayo</b>	<b>Pancake Mix/Syrup</b>
<b>Spaghetti Sauce</b>	<b>Toothbrushes/Toothpaste</b>
<b>Salad Dressings(Ranch/Dorothy Lynch)</b>	

### **Kunene Ministry**

This past December, the church took an offering on Christmas Eve to help the *Kunene Special School for the Mentally Challenged and Autistic Children* in Kenya. A total of \$1,501 was collected on Christmas Eve, of which \$500 has been sent to this school. Earlier in December 2022, an additional \$250 was sent as giving from the Children's fund here at the church as there was an immediate need at that time for food. Pictured to the right are some of the children from this school eating the food that we helped purchase. They have many needs at this school, including classrooms, dorms, uniforms, and food and have been very appreciative of what we have been able to give.



### **United Women of Faith**

The United Women in Faith met February 14, 2023 at 1:30 pm. Charlene Craig called the meeting to order. Eight members and one guest were present.

Ursula Sorlie gave the Devotions.

Every one recited the UW in Faith purpose. Mary Ann Rickertsen read the minutes of the January meeting. They were approved as corrected. Jackie Cook gave the Treasurers report with a balance of \$866.13.

**Correspondence:** UWF Response Magazine is available in print for 1 year, 6 issues for \$24.00 or digital for \$20.00.

Theda VanHorn made a motion to order the print copy for one year. Seconded. Carried.

Mission U Curriculum "Living the Kingdom -Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice". No dates set.

New Banner with name change not available, maybe never.

**Old Business:** The name on the checking has been changed to United Women in Faith. The bake sale proceeds for the soup supper was \$340.00. Jackie Cook will sent this amount to Epworth. Suggestions for the future were less bake sale items, spaghetti supper, barbeque supper or continue soup supper.

**New Business:** World Day of Prayer has been cancelled. Big Garden plant stakes were received and need four persons to volunteer to label the. Volunteers were Theda Van Horn, Cheryl Yoder, Marilyn Wall, and Mary Ann Rickertsen. They will be brought back to the March meeting. Cheryl Yoder was welcomed as a new member.

Marlene Kremlacek wants to donate \$200.00 to UWF and wants to know when we would like to have it.

Meeting adjourned.

Darla Voigt gave the lesson Embodied Spiritual Growth, physical and spiritual.

Next meeting will be March 14 at 1:30 .

Lesson Dorthea Fairbanks, Devotions Charlene Craig, and Lunch Theda Van Horn.

Lunch was served by Mary Ann Rickertsen

### **United Women in Faith (UMW)**

The next meeting of the UWF will be on  
**March 14th at 1:30 pm** in the church  
fellowship hall.

**All ladies are welcome!**



# Sunday

**Worship time 10:00 a.m.**

## Adult Bible Study

Sunday morning 9:00 am

## Children's Education

Sunday School 11:00 am.

-after Worship  
during the school year



**United Methodist Church of St. Paul**

## MISSION STATEMENT

**'Making and Nurturing Disciples'**

## United Methodist Church Prayer Chain

The purpose of the prayer chain is to offer special prayers for individuals in critical need. The chain cannot be activated without the permission of the family in need. Call prayer requests to the church office 754-4247. The prayer request will be called to the first person on these lists. Each caller then calls the next person on the list. If that person is unavailable, a call should be placed to the following name and contact made with the first party later in the day. Last name on list does not call anyone. We are in need of more people joining the prayer chain. Praying for each other is an important ministry that we can do for our church family.

If you would be interested in becoming part of this mission, please contact the church office. We are in need of more people joining the prayer chain. All you have to do is pray for someone as the requests are made. **Please consider this request to help.**

<b>Marilyn Wall</b>	754-5100	<b>Martha Voigt</b>	<b>754-4666</b>	<b>Jackie Cook</b>	<b>754-9115</b>
Deb Wells	754-5620	Darla Voigt	750-1401	Charlene Craig	754-5503
Nancy Harrington	750-0279	Rose Ross	754-4993	Mary Ann Rickertsen	754-4038
Theda Van Horn	754-4541	Cherri & Scott Klinginsmith	750-0615	DeEtte Lukasiewicz	750-0246
Cleo Edwards	754-4853	Charlotte Rasmussen	308-863-2281	Brenda Starkey	750-7967
Nancy Rudolf <b>OR</b> Mike McCarthy	750-2117-Nancy (775)-830-9521 -Mike	Vanice Bahensky	754-7873	Lory Thomsen	754-4286
Ashley Meyer	308-627-2808				



**United Methodist Church**  
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*MARCH*

